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KEMPSTON

KEMPSTON

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1954

H. S. BURY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

C. A. L. SETCHELL, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Chief Sanitary Inspector.



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## To the Chairman and Members of the Kempston Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health, vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1954.

The health of the district, as indicated by the vital statistics and the low incidence of infectious disease, remains satisfactory.

The County Report of the 1951 Census was published during the year and revealed some interesting facts. The population of Bedfordshire increased from 63,393 in 1801 to 206,462 in 1921. At this time the population of Kempston Urban District was 5,218, it had risen in 1931 to 5,488 and in 1951 it had risen to 8,645 (4,324 males, 4,312 females) an increase in 20 years of 57·5%, only 19% of which was accounted for by natural increase resulting in an excess of births over deaths. A 38·5% increase, therefore, being due to inward migration. No indication of the origin of this increase was given for this district but taking the county as a whole, out of every 1,000 of the population 60 persons were born in Wales, Scotland or Ireland, 7 in Commonwealth or Colonial countries and 19 in foreign countries. An analysis of the population is given in Table V in the body of the report, and an analysis of the total population showing sex and age structure is also shown.

2,456 dwellings were found to be occupied, including 7 caravans, and 29 were vacant at the time of the Census. A certain amount of overcrowding was revealed, for instance, 4 persons were enumerated as living more than 3 per room, 15 persons more than 2 per room, 226 persons more than 1½ per room and 1,023 more than 1 per room, i.e. 0·23% living more than 2 per room in 1951, compared with 0·96 in 1931. This indicates a considerable improvement, although still not satisfactory. Something like 11% of households had no piped water supply, 6% had no cooking stoves, 6% no kitchen sinks, 7% no W.C., and 36% no fixed bath. Only 62% of households had the exclusive use of all five of these amenities. Of those persons not living in private households, 10 were living in schools and children's homes, 9 in hospitals and nursing homes and 5 in miscellaneous establishments.

The distribution of the population between the various social classes was as follows: 2% were in Social Class I (Professional occupations), 12% in Class II (Intermediate occupations), 62% in Class III (Skilled occupations), 10% in Class IV (Partly skilled occupations) and 12% in Class V (Unskilled occupations).

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Council and Council staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. S. BURY,

August, 1955

*Medical Officer of Health*

# KEMPSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1954

### 1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	H. S. BURY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
<i>Surveyor, Chief Sanitary Inspector and Water Engineer</i>	C. A. L. SETCHELL, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection.
<i>Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Building Surveyor</i>	R. F. RAWLINS, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.

### 2. STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,302
Registrar General's estimate of mid-year population, 1954 (including Service Personnel)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,840
Number of Inhabited Houses (at end of 1954) according to the Rate Book										2,617
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£40,516
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£155

### 3. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The majority of employed people work in Bedford, or at Brick Works south of Kempston. A considerable number of men and girls are employed in Engineering Works in Bedford.

Apart from the Electric Lamp Works, the remainder in Kempston are small concerns comprising a Shoe Factory, Leather Works, Iron Foundry Works, Pattern Makers, Engineering Works, Crayon Works, Cardboard Box Factory, Tin Works and Metal Hose Works.

Social conditions are dominated by the housing shortage, with the consequence that many families are sharing houses and living in rooms often quite unsuitable. Although the Council are erecting houses as quickly as present restrictions will allow.

## 4. VITAL STATISTICS.

### LIVE BIRTHS

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	55	45	100
Illegitimate	...	...	...	4	1	5
				<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>
Total	...	...	...	59	46	105
				<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>
Crude Birth Rate	...	...	...	11·9 per 1,000 home population		
Comparable Birth Rate	...	...	...	12·7	„ „ „	„

(The comparability factor for the District being 1·07)

As compared with:—

Average of last 5 years	...	...	...	14·0 per 1,000 home population		
Rate for Bedfordshire	...	...	...	15·3	„ „ „	„
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	15·2	„ „ „	„

### STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	—	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
				<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>
Total	...	...	...	3	—	3
				<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>
Still Birth Rate	...	...	...	27·7 per 1,000 live and still births		

As compared with:—

Average of last 5 years	...	...	...	23·3	„ „ „	„ „ „
Rate for Bedfordshire	...	...	...	24·4	„ „ „	„ „ „
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	24·0	„ „ „	„ „ „

### DEATHS

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deaths in the District	...	...	...	30	32	62
Transferred into District	...	...	...	18	15	33
Transferred from District	...	...	...	2	13	15
				<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>
Total	...	...	...	46	34	80
				<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>
Crude Death Rate	...	...	...	9·04 per 1,000 home population		
Comparable Death Rate	...	...	...	9·13	„ „ „	„

(The comparability factor for the District being 1·01)



As compared with:—

Average of last 5 years	...	...	9.3	per 1,000 home population
Rate for Bedfordshire	...	...	10.0	„ „ „ „
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	11.3	„ „ „ „

#### DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	—	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	3	—	3
				=	=	=

Infant Mortality Rate ... 28.5 per 1,000 related live births

As compared with:—

Average of last 5 years	...	...	24.7	„	„	„	„	„
Rate for Bedfordshire	...	...	26.5	„	„	„	„	„
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	25.5	„	„	„	„	„

#### DEATHS CONNECTED WITH CHILDBIRTH

Maternal Mortality ... Nil per 1,000 total (live and still) births

As compared with:—

Average of last 5 years	...	...	Nil	„	„	„	„	„	„
Rate for Bedfordshire	...	...	0.60	„	„	„	„	„	„
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	0.69	„	„	„	„	„	„



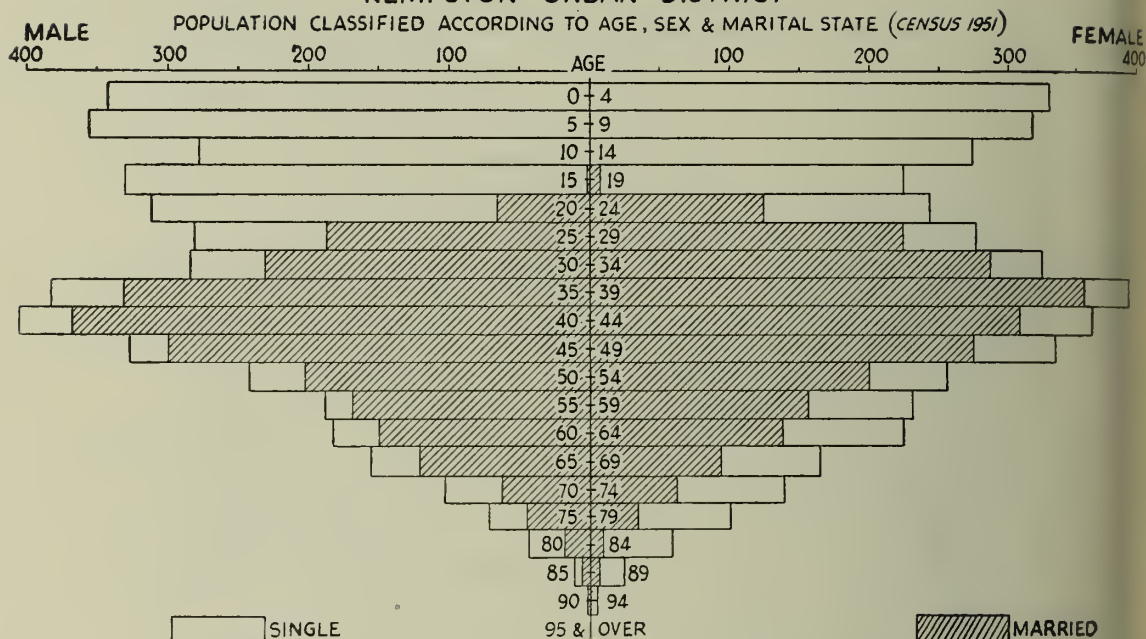
# PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes	Under 15 years		15-65		over 65		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	—	—	2	—	2	—	4	—
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	1	2	2	6	1	8	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
16. Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17. Vascular Lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	1	—	4	4	5	4
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	—	—	5	—	1	1	6	1
19. Hypertension with heart disease	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1
20. Other heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	4	7	4	7
21. Other circulatory disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
22. Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
24. Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	2	—	1	2	5	3	8	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
34. All other accidents ...	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	1
35. Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All causes ...	3	1	14	8	29	25	46	34

## CAUSE OF DEATH IN INFANTS

Cause	Age	Total
Pink disease ...	10 months	1
Congenital abnormality ...	1 „	1
Prematurity ...	9 hours	1

## KEMPSTON URBAN DISTRICT



### 5. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE AREA

PROVIDED BY THE NORTH WEST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL  
HOSPITAL BOARD

#### GENERAL HOSPITALS

Bedford General Hospital, South Wing, Kempston Road, Bedford.

Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASE HOSPITALS

Spittlesea Isolation Hospital, Spittlesea, Nr. Luton, Beds.

#### CHEST CLINICS (FOR PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS)

Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.

#### VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS

Bedford General Hospital (South Wing).

Males and Females: Wednesday, 5 p.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 3 p.m.-5 p.m.

Luton and Dunstable Hospital.

Males and Females: Monday to Friday, 8.30 a.m.-8.30 p.m.; Saturday, 8.30 a.m.-12 noon.

PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY

Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.

## PROVIDED BY THE BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Service provided by the Bedfordshire County Council has satisfactorily met the needs of the area. It covers the full twenty-four hours, and is free of charge.

In addition to moving emergency cases, ambulance or sitting case car transport is available for carrying patients unable to travel by other means to and from Hospitals and Clinics, when attendance is necessary for the purpose of receiving medical treatment.

Except in the case of an emergency, the request for an ambulance must be made by a Medical Practitioner or other authorised person. This should be to the nearest depot.

The service now also covers the removal to isolation hospitals of patients suffering from infectious disease.

Depots are situated as follows:—

	<i>Telephone</i>
BEDFORD	Bedford 5335
Bedford Road, Kempston	
AMPTHILL	Ampthill 3333
14 Dunstable Street	
BIGGLESWADE	Biggleswade 2295
Crab Lane	
DUNSTABLE	Dunstable 761
High Street North	
LUTON	Luton 4600
42 Church Street	
LINSLADE (Bucks. County Council)	Leighton Buzzard 3332
10 New Road, Linslade	
RUSHDEN	Rushden 403
Rushden and District Motor Ambulance Association, Mr. C. C. Woods, 3 Purvis Road	

### DOMICILIARY NURSING AND MIDWIFERY SERVICE

This Service is administered by the Northern Divisional Health Committee.

The nurses employed are:—

Nurse F. K. Patton†‡, 12 Stewartby (Tel: Lower Shelton 268).

Nurse M. Clark\*†, 14 Birchdale Avenue, Kempston (Tel: Kempston 2172)

Mr. T. Eccles‡, 2 Cross Street, Bedford (Tel: Bedford 2030).

Nurse C. B. Macdonald‡, Flat 6, The Grange, Kempston (Tel: Kempston 2293).

† S.C.M. (State Certified Midwife)      \* S.E.A.N. (State Enrolled Assistant Nurse)

‡ S.R.N. (State Registered Nurse)

### HEALTH VISITING SERVICE

Miss B. D. Turner, 22 High Street, Flitwick. (Left July 1954).

Miss R. A. Potter, c/o "Hilldown", Biddenham (Tel: Bedford 2315).

Miss E. B. Strong, Flat B, 14 Rothsay Gardens, Bedford.

### HOME HELP SERVICE

Organiser: Mrs. V. M. Pedley, 3 St. Peter's Street, Bedford (Tel: Bedford 2207).

### INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

Kempston Methodist Schoolroom (Foster Road), Fridays 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

### ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

Barford Avenue, Bedford. Alternate Wednesdays 10 a.m.-12 noon.

### SCHOOL CLINICS

St. Peter's Clinic, 3 St. Peter's Street, Bedford.	Child Guidance Dental (2 surgeries) Orthoptic Speech therapy Sunlight	2 sessions weekly Sessions as required Six sessions weekly Three sessions weekly When specially arranged
--	---	--

## 6. SCHOOLS

There are four schools in the district:—

### 1. KEMPSTON SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOL

The average number of pupils on the roll (Christmas term) was 339.

The sanitary accommodation is as follows:—

Girls ... ..	7 W.Cs. and 9 washbasins.
Boys ... ..	8 W.Cs. (of which 6 W.Cs. shared with Juniors from Primary School); 2 urinals and 11 washbasins.

### 2. BEDFORD ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL (JUNIOR)

The average number of pupils on the roll (Christmas term) was 194.

Temporary accommodation for 75 children is provided at the East Methodist Church Hall.

The sanitary accommodation is as follows:—

Girls: infants and juniors ...	7 W.Cs.
Boys: infants ... ..	2 W.Cs. and 1 urinal
juniors ... ..	6 W.Cs. (shared with Secondary Modern School) and 1 urinal.

There are 9 washbasins.

In addition the following sanitary accommodation is provided at the East Methodist Church Hall.

Girls	...	...	...	...	2 W.Cs.
Boys	...	...	...	...	1 W.C. and urinal.

There are 2 sinks for washing purposes.

### 3. THE UP END PRIMARY SCHOOL (INFANTS)

The average number of pupils on the roll (Christmas term) was 293.

The sanitary accommodation is as follows:—

Girls: infants	...	...	...	5 W.Cs.
juniors	...	...	...	3 W.C.s
Boys: infants	...	...	...	2 W.Cs. and 1 urinal.
juniors	...	...	...	2 W.Cs. and 1 urinal.

There are 5 washbasins.

Only 1 W.C. is provided at this school for the use of teachers.

Each of the schools has a main water supply. School dinners are provided in canteens situated at the Kempston Secondary Modern School and in the Parochial Hall.

### 4. BALLIOL ROAD COUNTY PRIMARY (JUNIORS AND INFANTS)

Number of pupils on roll (Christmas term) was 314.

The sanitary accommodation is as follows:—

Girls	...	...	...	...	12 W.Cs.
Boys	...	...	...	...	6 W.Cs.

## 7. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### (a) WATER SUPPLY

Apart from four cottages situated on the outskirts of the District all premises are provided with a piped water supply from off the Council's distribution mains.

The water supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality, the 91 samples for bacteriological examination taken from various points on the supply during the year being of a high standard.

506 yards, 4 in. Cast Iron Main and 140 yards, 3 in. Cast Iron Main were laid during the year to supply an extension of the Council's Housing Estate and Hoo Farm.

The usual complaints with regard to lack of pressure in the Water Mains, particularly at the beginning of the week when draw-off is high, were received, and some adjustments to Control Valves were carried out in October in order to improve matters. The Biggleswade Water Board placed a contract at the latter part of the year for the covering over of the Moxhill Storage Reservoir.



Consumption figures for the year are given in the following table:—

							Gallons
Kempston Urban District	...	...	...	...	...	...	92,567,000
Elstow	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,487,000
Cardington	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,950,000
R.A.W.	...	...	...	...	...	...	74,343,000
							<u>173,347,000</u>

#### (b) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Apart from the following premises which are situated in the out-parts of the District, all dwelling houses are connected to the sewers:—

<i>Situation</i>							<i>No. of Premises</i>	<i>Sanitary Arrangements</i>
Sailor's Bridge	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	Pail Closets
Mill Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	"
Kempston Mill	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	Chemical Closet
Bury Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	Pail Closets
Hoo Lodge	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	Cesspool
The Mill House	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	"
The Manor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	"
Manor Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	"
The Manor Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	"
The Bury	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	"

#### SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS

The scheme for the re-modelling and enlargement of the Works, which was the subject of Ministerial Inquiry in 1946 unfortunately still remains in abeyance.

The experiment of using layers of baled straw to facilitate sludge drying was continued during the year.

700 yards of 6 in. Sewer was laid during the year to serve the extension of the Hoo Farm Housing Site.

Three dwellings were connected to the Council's Sewer and the existing cesspools filled in, and the drainage from Kempston Grange House (part of which was converted into 7, self-contained flats) and the Grange Cottage was adapted and improved, so as to discharge into a small Sewage Pumping Station owned by the Military Authorities for eventual disposal into the Public Sewer.

By arrangement with the owner, an anti-flooding trap was inserted on a connection in Bunyan Road, where the surcharged foul sewer had been giving trouble.

#### (c) RIVERS AND STREAMS

No complaints have been received of river or stream pollution during the year, and no action has been necessary.

(d) PUBLIC CLEANSING

The weekly collection of refuse and salvage in one operation from all premises within the Urban District has been maintained throughout the year. Approximately 2,112 tons of house refuse being disposed of.

The following table shows the quantities of salvage sold during the year:—

						<i>Tons Cwts.</i>	
Waste Paper, Books, Cardboard	...	...	...	...	...	52	5
Scrap Iron and Tins	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Non-ferrous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Textiles	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Bones	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Bottles and Jars	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
						54	8

Revenue from sale of Salvage during the year amounted to £239 0s. 0d.

(e) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following table shows the number of inspections made during the year, for all purposes:—

Dwelling-houses inspected and Recorded under the Housing Acts Regulations	—
Ordinary Inspections for housing defects	73
Sanitary routine inspections	196
Inspection of Slaughterhouses and Foodstuffs	41
Visits and revisits to Council Property relating to reported defects and repairs of same	411
Inspection of Factories and Workshops, including Bakehouses	67
Inspection of Cow-sheds and Dairies	7
Inspection of Petroleum Stores	11
Visits <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	4
Rooms disinfected	3
Inspection under Shops Act	6
Drainage Inspections	161
Drain Tests	84
Caravans	33
Other Miscellaneous visits	127
Water Services	107
Building Bye-laws	701

(f) SHOPS AND OFFICES

No action with regard to shops and offices was found necessary, except in the case of food shops which are reported separately.

(g) SMOKE ABATEMENT

Following receipt of a petition from residents in the Ampthill Road area of the District, close observations were made on the emissions of smoke and grit from a nearby Foundry, and many consultations with the Management concerned have been held.



The firm in question are fully alive to the matter and have installed modern spark and grit arresters, and are experimenting with the erection of additional baffles in order to further improve the position. The obnoxious fumes which very occasionally are emitted, are due entirely to the processes of manufacture being carried out, and it is impossible to see how this can be entirely eliminated. The position continues to be closely watched.

(h) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are no privately owned or other swimming baths open to the public in the District.

During the summer period considerable use is made of a natural bathing pool and sandpit situated on the northern boundary of the district, by persons patronising the Honey Hill Lido. As the greater part of the premises come within the Borough of Bedford, supervision is carried out by officials of the Bedford Corporation Public Health Department.

(i) PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

Two new installations for the storage of Petroleum Spirit were approved and licensed during the year, the total number of licenses issued being 28 in respect of petrol installations and 1 carbide.

(j) RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

One premises was registered under this Act during the year.

(k) LICENSED PREMISES

A thorough and detailed survey of the 13 Licensed Premises in the District was carried out during the year, and Notices served in seven cases requiring the owners concerned to bring sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, etc., up to modern standards, and to provide hot water supply in the bars. In all cases, plans of proposed alterations and improvements have been approved by the Local Authority and the Licensing Justices, and the necessary works are in progress.

(l) PUBLIC MORTUARY

During the year 2 bodies were received into the mortuary which, by arrangement, is available for use by the neighbouring Authorities of Bedford and Ampthill Rural District Councils.

(m) DISINFECTIONS

Fumigation of rooms has been carried out as follows, by a dilute spray of Formalin and by Formaldehyde Gas.

After Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	2
After Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	3
Other causes	...	...	...	...	3

An inspection of the house and sanitary arrangements is also made in each case, and notice served to make good any defect that may be found.

Since the de-rationing of soap, the Council has resumed the free issue of carbolic soap to occupiers of premises where cases of infectious diseases occur.

#### (n) DISINFESTATIONS

Seven dwelling-houses were treated for the eradication of wasps or flies.

#### (o) MARINE STORES

Two persons with premises in the District are registered as Dealers in Scrap Metal.

#### (p) SLAUGHTER HOUSES

The re-commencement of private slaughtering was permitted in July, and all butchers and others concerned were informed of the Statutory requirements affecting the slaughter of animals intended for sale for human consumption. Two private slaughter houses were licensed by the Council and the following table shows the number of carcasses inspected to the end of the year:—

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ... ..	—	—	—	1	42
Number inspected ... ..	—	—	—	1	42
<i>All disease except Tuberculosis:—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	1 (29½ lbs.)
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	2·38
<i>Tuberculosis only:—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	1 (8 lbs.)
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	2·38

Although the Council agreed in May to allow their Inspectors to carry out certification duties under the Government's Fat Stock Guarantee Scheme, no actual work was performed under the Scheme up to the end of the year.

## 8. HOUSING

The following table shows the number of houses completed for occupation since the end of the second world war:—

Year	By Kempston U.D.C.		By Other Authorities		By Private Enterprise		Total
1946 ... ..	20	—	24				44
1947 ... ..	28	—	6				34
1948 ... ..	64	—	1				65
1949 ... ..	28	—	8				36
1950 ... ..	30	18	2				50
1951 ... ..	14	6	5				25
1952 ... ..	46	2	12				60
1953 ... ..	20	—	30				50
1954 ... ..	7 (flats)	—	19				26
Totals ... ..	257	26	107				390

At the end of the year 41 Private Enterprise houses were under construction.

### (1) APPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL HOUSES

The total number of applications for houses on the books of the Council at the end of the year under review was as follows:—

(a) Applicants with families in rooms:							
(i) Residing and Working in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
(ii) Residing but not working in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
(iii) Working but not residing in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
(iv) Not working or residing in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
(b) Householders with families:							
(i) Residing and working in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
(ii) Residing but not working in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
(iii) Working but not residing in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
(iv) Not working or residing in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
(c) Applicants without children:							
(i) Residing and working in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
(ii) Residing but not working in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
(iii) Working but not residing in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(iv) Not working or residing in Kempston	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
(d) Single Persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(e) Applicants for Old People's Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
(f) Grange Flats	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Total							335

## (2) INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	51
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	73
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under the sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 ... ..	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	Nil
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	1
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	50

## (3) REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	57
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## (4) ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	Nil
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ... ..	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	Nil
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ... ..	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	1
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	1
D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	Nil
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	Nil

## (5) HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV—OVERCROWDING

No action has been taken under this part of the Act although records of known cases of overcrowding are maintained which are brought to the notice of the department mainly because the persons concerned wish to strengthen their application for a Council House on these grounds. The standard of overcrowding is based on the number of occupants of a dwelling and the floor space of the rooms, and much distress can be caused when two or more families have to share a dwelling and its conveniences which may be designed only for a single family, though these cases do not come within the legal definition of overcrowding.

Considerable difficulty is still being experienced in getting house repairs carried out, particularly with the older types of small dwellings where the controlled rents are so low that the carrying out of extensive repairs by the owners creates definite hardship.

## 9. NEW BUILDINGS

### (1) PLANS SUBMITTED AND DEALT WITH DURING YEAR

Dwelling houses:—

(a) Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(b) Police	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(c) War Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(d) Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Private Garages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Outbuildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Extensions or alterations to existing buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Industrial and Business Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Building Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Other Plans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19

## 10. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### (1) MILK SUPPLY

#### (i) DAIRIES AND DISTRIBUTORS

The following table shows the number of distributors and dairy premises on the register at the end of the year.

Registered dairy premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Registered distributors—								
(a) Trading from premises within the district	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(b) Trading from premises outside the district	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3



## (ii) SPECIALLY DESIGNATED MILKS

The following table shows the licences issued and in force during the year under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

### "Tuberculin Tested"\*

Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Supplementary Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

### "Pasteurised"\*

Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Supplementary Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

\* Two distributors dealt in Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk

Frequent samples of designated milks are taken by the County Sanitary Officer who furnishes copies of the laboratory reports: these indicated that the supplies were entirely satisfactory during the year under review.

## (2) OTHER FOODS

### A. NUMBER OF FOOD HANDLING PREMISES IN THE AREA

							Number	Visits made
(a) Shops:—								
1.	Ice Cream vendors	...	...	...	...	...	21	24
2.	Bakers and confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	18	16
3.	Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	18	21
4.	Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	3	7
5.	General stores	...	...	...	...	...	11	6
6.	Delicatessen shops	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	8	11
8.	Dairies and retail milk distributors	...	...	...	...	...	6	6
(b) Vans, stalls and hawkers							9	4
(c) Catering establishments:—								
1.	Restaurants and cafes	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
1.	Industrial canteens	...	...	...	...	...	7	6
3.	School canteens	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
4.	Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Outside catering contractors	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
6.	Fish and chip shops	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
7.	Others	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
(d) Manufacturing establishments:—								
1.	Sausage makers	...	...	...	...	...	6	9
2.	Meat pie and cooked meat makers	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
3.	Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	6	13
4.	Ice cream makers	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Confectionery manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	4	6
6.	Others	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
(e) Licensed Premises							13	27

## B. CONDEMNED FOODS AND DISPOSAL THEREOF

All unsound food is surrendered voluntarily, and a condemnation certificate is issued. Condemned food is disposed of by arrangement with the Sanitary Inspectors.

Food condemned during the year consisted of:—

Imported and Home Killed Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	111½ lbs.
Canned Meats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
„ Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20¼ lbs.
„ Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18½ lbs.
„ Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
„ Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	½ lb.

## C. FOOD LEGISLATION: ACTION TAKEN UNDER:—

### 1. ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947-1952

There are at present no manufacturers of Ice Cream in the Urban District. Routine samples of Ice Cream are taken from the 21 retailers who are licensed under Sec. 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

### 2. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 SECT. 13

Inspections were made at all food premises (including Public Houses) to ensure compliance with the provisions of the above Act. Particular attention paid to the following:—

- (1) Provision of washing facilities with hot water, and W.C. accommodation.
- (2) General cleanliness of premises.
- (3) Storage of food, including perishable goods.
- (4) Vermin infestation.

### 3. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 SECT. 14

All premises used for the sale and/or storage of Ice Cream and the manufacture of sausages or the preparation of prepared or cooked meats, etc. were registered, and routine inspections are made at periodic intervals.

### 4. LOCAL FOOD HYGIENE BYELAWS (ADOPTED 15TH AUGUST, 1950)

Copies of the above Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 were sent to all food premises (including Public Houses) on coming into operation. Visits are made to all premises and inspections made to detect any contraventions, and to secure compliance with these Byelaws.

### 5. PROPAGANDA AND EDUCATION ON CLEAN FOOD UNDERTAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

With the exception of personal contact with food dealers by the Sanitary Inspectors, no organised propaganda has yet been undertaken.



## 11. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	Notifications by Age Groups									Removed to hospital
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	over 15	Total	
Measles ... ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3	1
Infective Hepatitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	1	—	2	—	3	—	1	9	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1

As will be seen from the above table, the incidence of infectious diseases was low.

## 12. TUBERCULOSIS IN AGE GROUPS

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year to 5 years ... ..	1*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 years to 15 years ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 " 35 " ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 " 65 " ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
over 65 years ... ..	1*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	1+2*	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

\* Transferred from another District.

### NUMBER ON REGISTER AT END OF YEAR

									Male	Female
Pulmonary ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	23
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4

# DEATH RATES PER 100,000 OF THE POPULATION

This District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.3
Bedfordshire	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.1
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.0

## 13. MASS RADIOGRAPHY

No visit was made by the Unit to this district during the year.

## 14. IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Immunisation and vaccination is now the responsibility of the County Council and the state of protection of the children of the District is indicated by the tables appearing below, which have been supplied by the Divisional Medical Officer.

### IMMUNISATION STATE OF THE CHILD POPULATION

	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	Total Under 15
Children completely protected (i.e. have received primary or booster injections since 1st January, 1950) ... ..	5	338	619	350	1,312
Children partially protected (i.e. have received primary injection prior to 1st January, 1950) ... ..	—	—	123	204	327
Total ...	5	338	742	554	1,639

### VACCINATIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR

	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 and over	Total
Primary Vaccination ...	25	—	1	1	10	37
Re-Vaccination ...	—	—	—	7	10	17

## 15. CLEANSING OF VERMINOUS PERSONS

### LICE AND SCABIES

By arrangement with the Borough of Bedford, infected persons are treated at the Borough Treatment Centre, Commercial Road, Bedford, at 10s. per treatment for scabies and £1 per treatment for cleansing from vermin.

Where possible, arrangements are made for the other members of the household to attend for treatment as contacts at the same time as the infected person or persons.

During the year under review no treatments were given.

## 16. PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

No action was necessary to be taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

## 17. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SECTION 47)

No action was necessary under this Act during the year.

## 18. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following table shows the work undertaken during the year.

	No. of properties inspected	No. of properties found to be infested	No. of Notices served under Sec. 4	No. of treatments carried out	
				By Council's Operator	Voluntarily by occupiers
Local Authority's Property	6	3	—	3	—
Dwelling Houses ...	412	38	—	38	—
Business Premises ...	27	3	—	3	—
Agricultural Property ...	11	3	—	—	3
Total ...	456	47	—	44	3

In addition test baiting of the Council's sewerage system was carried out with negative results.

All complaints of rodent infestation are promptly investigated by the Council's Operator, who devoted a considerable amount of time in continuing the routine survey of the district. It was found that infestations at dwelling house properties were mainly associated with the keeping of poultry or animals.

Great importance is given to providing a prompt and efficient service which, though far from self-supporting from the financial aspect, is felt to be fully justified in preventing damage to properties and foodstuffs, and in the prevention of the spread of disease.

## 19. FACTORIES

### PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

#### PART I OF THE ACT

#### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	11	10	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	52	39	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	5	—	—
Totals ... ..	70	54	6	—

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	3	2	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	3	3	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	6	5	—	3	—

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### 3. OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel— Making, etc. ...	6	—	—	—	—	—

